



ROCKY MOUNTAIN ELK FOUNDATION

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January 9, 2001

Jeff Koenig, Director
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
600 Capital Way North
Olympia, WA 98501

Re: Heart K Ranch

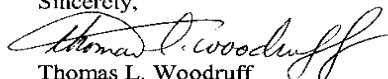
Dear Director Koenig:

In the tremendous flurry of activity at the end of the year, the transaction occurred for the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation to convey approximately half of the Heart K Ranch into the ownership of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. The other half of the ranch went into the ownership of the Bureau of Reclamation. I'm sure that Dave Brittell and Dan Budd have been keeping you up to speed on this matter. The Elk Foundation is extremely pleased that a portion of the Heart K is going into public ownership by WDFW. It was the intent of the Elk Foundation when we purchased the property in 1991 that it would eventually go into the ownership of WDFW. It was a long road but at least part of that intention has finally been realized.

I would like to take the opportunity to inform you that this was a complicated transaction, it took a lot of effort on the part of several people. I worked with your real estate service people, Dan Budd and Todd Walker, and really enjoyed the cooperativeness, the diligence, and the effort they put into making this happen. Without their efforts and commitment to make this happen, I've no doubt we'd still be second guessing if it could be done at all. I worked with both of them many years back and forgot what a pleasure it was to work with competent professionals that are dedicated to getting a project done. I think these two gentlemen are a compliment to the WDFW entity.

The Elk Foundation will look forward to working with WDFW and BOR to develop a management plan for the property. The Elk Foundation has identified some funding that will be available for habitat restoration and revegetation on the lands as WDFW takes over the management. Again, the Elk Foundation is extremely pleased that WDFW is now owner of some of the Heart K Ranch. Best wishes for the new year.

Sincerely,


Thomas L. Woodruff
Lands Program Manager

RECEIVED

JAN 12 2001

cc: Dave B
Dan Budd
Todd Walker

WDFW
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR